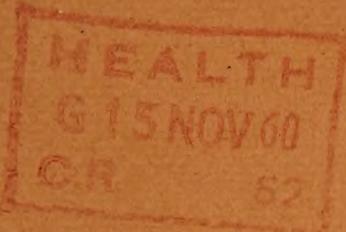


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BOROUGH OF SOUTHWOLD

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR 1959.



Arthur C. Gee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.



BOROUGH OF SOUTHWOLD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1959.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Southwold.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure of presenting the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1959.

The birth rate this year is slightly higher than for the previous year, thus reflecting locally, a national trend. It is very considerably below the national figure. The death rate continues at a figure much as in previous years and compares very favourably with that for the country as a whole. The population of the Borough continues to show a slow decline in numbers.

The main causes of death continue to be malignant conditions and disease of the heart and circulatory system. No fatal motor accidents took place in the Borough and there was only one death through accident.

The Borough was very free from infectious disease particularly in respect of measles, of which only five cases were notified. There were twelve cases of pneumonia, a figure which has been quite consistent during the past few years. There were no cases of poliomyelitis nor of food poisoning. Also, there were no new cases of tuberculosis. There are, however, nine cases of notified tuberculosis within the Borough, distributed in age grouping between the ages of 15 to 64 years.

Referring to the Public Health Inspector's Report, it is gratifying to note that all the samples of drinking water taken during the year were of a satisfactory standard. The question of improved sewage disposal was taken one step further by the preparation of a joint scheme with adjoining districts. The decision to adopt a design which gives partial treatment only of the effluent is well justified by the recent publication of the Medical Research Council's Report on Sewage Pollution.

The house refuse tip near the gasometer works has been kept well under control during the year and no complaints

arising from it occurred during the year. Some nuisance from smells did arise at times from the mud in Buss Creek, but whilst this was undoubtedly unpleasant to nearby residents, it could not be classed as a danger to health. Proposed sea defence works involving this creek, should help to relieve nuisance from this cause in the future.

May I take this opportunity of thanking you, Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council, for your support during the year.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR C. GEE.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Registrar-General's estimated population (mid 1959) 2370
Number of inhabited houses as at 31st. December, 1959..... 1273
Rateable Value as at 31st. December, 1959 £38,922

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

| | | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|---|--------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|--|
| LIVE BIRTHS | Legitimate | 9 | 8 | 17 |
| | Illegitimate | - | - | - |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | | 9 | 8 | 17 |
| | | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1959 | | 7.2 (Unadjusted) 10.8 (Adjusted) | | Comparative figure for England & Wales. 16.5 |
| STILLBIRTHS | | Nil | | |
| DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated resident population mid-1959 | | 15.2 (Unadjusted) 9.1 (Adjusted) | | 11.6 |
| DEATHS OF INFANTS under ONE year of age | | Nil | | |

CAUSES OF DEATH.

| | | <u>Male</u> | <u>Female</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-----|--|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1) | Malignant neoplasm, lung | 2 | - | 2 |
| 2) | Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| 3) | Vascular lesions of nervous system | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| 4) | Coronary disease, angina | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 5) | Other heart disease | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| 6) | Other circulatory disease | 1 | - | 1 |
| 7) | Pneumonia | - | 2 | 2 |
| 8) | Other diseases of respiratory system | - | 1 | 1 |
| 9) | Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | - | 1 | 1 |
| 10) | Hyperplasia of prostate | 1 | - | 1 |
| 11) | Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 12) | Motor vehicle accidents | - | - | - |
| 13) | All other accidents | - | 1 | 1 |
| | | <u>15</u> | <u>21</u> | <u>36</u> |

COMPARATIVE TABLE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

| | <u>1959</u> | <u>1958</u> | <u>1957</u> | <u>1956</u> | <u>1955</u> |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Population | 2370 | 2380 | 2400 | 2410 | 2440 |
| Births | 17 | 15 | 20 | 27 | 26 |
| Birth rate per 1,000 | (Unadjusted) 7.2 | 6.3 | 8.3 | 11.2 | 10.5 |
| | (Adjusted) 10.8 | 9.5 | 12.6 | 17.0 | 15.9 |
| Deaths | 36 | 38 | 42 | 36 | 39 |
| Death rate per 1,000 | (Unadjusted) 15.2 | 16 | 17.5 | 14.9 | 15.9 |
| | (Adjusted) 9.1 | 10 | 10.7 | 9.3 | 9.2 |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year, with a comparison of previous years:-

| | <u>1959</u> | <u>1958</u> | <u>1957</u> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Measles | 5 | 45 | 12 |
| Pneumonia | 12 | 12 | 11 |
| Whooping Cough | - | 30 | 3 |
| Dysentery | - | - | - |
| Tuberculosis | - | - | 1 |
| Scarlet Fever | 2 | - | 1 |
| Food Poisoning | - | - | 3 |
| Poliomyelitis | - | - | 1 |
| Erysipelas | - | 1 | - |
| Malaria | - | 1 | - |

REPORT NO. 2003-02

Listed below are the

titles, authors, and publishers of the books and pamphlets which have been received by the Wellcome Library during the year 2003.

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HOME HELP SERVICE.

There has been quite a substantial increase in the amount of Home Help service provided within the Borough during the year under review. A total of 20 cases were assisted, 5 being chronic sick and 15 old people. A total of 5479 hours of service were provided.

HOME NURSING.

There has been a small reduction in the amount of work required under this heading, in the Borough compared with the previous year. A total of 1225 hours were provided, compared with 1489 the previous year, 955 hours of which were provided for persons over the age of 65 years. The total number of cases provided was 50, compared with 84 the previous year.

The District Nurse-Midwife for Southwold is Miss A. Flowerdew.

TUBERCULOSIS.

| | MALES | | FEMALES | | |
|---|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|-------|
| | Pulmonary | Non-Pul. | Pulmonary | Non-Pul. | TOTAL |
| Number of cases on the Register at 31st. December, 1958 | 5 | - | 5 | 1 | 11 |
| Number of cases added during the year | - | - | - | - | - |
| Number of cases removed during the year | 1 | - | 1 | - | 2 |
| Number of cases on the Register at 31st. December, 1959 | 4 | - | 4 | 1 | 9 |

Cases Added to the Register.

NIL.

Cases Removed from the Register.

| | | |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Recovered | = | 1 |
| Died | = | 1 |
| Removed to other areas | = | — |
| | | 2 |
| | | — |

Cases on the Register, according to age and sex at 31st. December, 1959

| <u>Age Group.</u> | <u>Male.</u> | <u>Female.</u> | <u>Total.</u> |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| Under 5 years | - | - | - |
| 5 - 15 years | - | - | - |
| 15 - 24 years | - | 2 | 2 |
| 25 - 44 years | - | 1 | 1 |
| 45 - 64 years | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 65 years and over | - | - | - |
| Age unknown | - | - | - |
| | — | — | — |
| | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| | — | — | — |

BOROUGH OF SOUTHWOLD

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1959.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Southwold.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present this Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration of the Borough and the work done during the year 1959.

WATER SUPPLY.

A wholesome and sufficient supply of water for all requirements has been maintained throughout the year by the Southwold Waterworks Company Limited. 9 samples taken during the year have been satisfactory.

RAINFALL.

During the year the rainfall as recorded at our Ferry Road Station was 17.62 in. The highest daily record being 1.14 in. There were 264 days without rain and 101 wet days.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

The main sewerage scheme has worked reasonably well. The major works necessary at the sewage works to provide an innocuous effluent are still outstanding. However, much progress has been made in the preparation of a joint scheme for a new sewage disposal works to be capable of dealing with the sewage of Southwold and parts of the adjoining districts of Reydon and Walberswick.

All drains are examined before being covered in and smoke or water tests applied where applicable. Six new houses were connected to the sewers.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

All public conveniences were fitted out with wash basins and paper towels were provided free of charge.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

House refuse collection is carried out by contract, and the present contractors Messrs. May Bros. have carried out their duties with every satisfaction.

House Refuse Collection and Disposal (Contd).

All house refuse is tipped and kept under control at our tip situated near the Gasometer works. This site is nearing the time when some extension will be necessary.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1959 (including Dwellinghouses).

During the year 500 premises were visited, of which 358 were dwellinghouses and 142 various other premises.

In the course of these inspections 249 defects or nuisances were found and 218 were abated. To secure the abatement of these defects and nuisances 182 informal notices were served upon the owners or agents concerned, in addition to personal interviews by the Public Health Inspector.

SHOP ACT, 1950: SECTION 38.

There are 95 shops in the district which are visited periodically, and there have been no contraventions.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of factory chimneys in the district | 3 |
| " " observations taken | 10 |
| " " legal proceedings taken | 0 |

The new plant installed at Sole Bay Brewery still gave cause for complaint due to excessive deposits of grit. A new grit arrestor was installed and is proving much more successful.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959.

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Factories Acts 1937 to 1959 (Contd).

| Premises (1) | Number on Register (2) | Number of | | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | Inspections (3) | Written notices (4) | Occupiers prosecuted (5) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 21 | 21 | Nil | Nil |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 14 | 24 | Nil | Nil |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) | 6 | 12 | Nil | Nil |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | 41 | 57 | Nil | Nil |

Factories Acts 1937 to 1959 (Contd.).

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

| Particulars (1) | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6) | |
|--|--|-----|--------------------------------|-----|--|--|
| | Found Remedied | | Referred. To H.M. Inspector | | | |
| | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Inadequate venti- lation (S.4) | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient | - | - | - | - | - | |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | - | - | - | - | - | |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | - | - | - | - | - | |
| <u>TOTAL</u> | 5 | 5 | - | - | - | |

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Meat Inspection.

No slaughtering takes place within the district, but the Public Health Inspector assists the Lothingland Rural District Council by inspecting all animals slaughtered at a slaughterhouse situated at Reydon.

Other Foods Inspection.

The following tinned rotten foods were inspected, condemned and destroyed being unfit for human consumption:-

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 2 tins Corned Beef | 6 lbs 12 ozs |
| 2 " Cooked Gammon | 24 lbs 2 ozs |
| 4 " Pork Shoulder | 46 lbs 2 ozs |
| 1 " Chopped Pork | 4 lbs |
| 5 " Slices Bacon | 5 lbs |
| 2 " Prawns | 16 lbs |
| <hr/> | |
| Total weight | 102 lbs. 0 ozs |
| <hr/> | |

Food Premises.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| No. of premises of inspected | 59 |
| No. of inspections made | 76 |
| No. of premises found unsatisfactory | 4 |
| No. rendered satisfactory | 4 |

No. of Premises registered under Sect. 16 Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Ice Cream - Manufacture | 0 |
| Ice Cream - Storage or sale only | 12 |
| Sausages, preserved foods, etc. | 4 |

DAIRIES AND RETAIL PURVEYORS OF MILK.

There are two local dairies which are periodically inspected and are kept under good conditions.

Dealers licences authorising the use of special Designations of Milk as follows - Tuberculin Tested (2) Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised (1), Pasteurised (1), were issued.

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS AND BAKERIES.

These have been found to be satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL - PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Prevalence of Rats and Mice.

| Type of Property. | Total | Notified by Occupier | | Recorded. | Rats Major. | Rats Minor. | Mice Only. |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| | | Other -wise. | | | | | |
| Local Authority | 3 | - | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | - |
| Dwellinghouses | 1012 | 68 | 274 | 67 | - | 67 | - |
| Business | 273 | 4 | 91 | 1 | - | 1 | - |
| Agricultural | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 1288 | 72 | 368 | 71 | 2 | 69 | - |

Measures of Control by Local Authority.

| Type of Property. | Number Inspected. | Number of Inspections. | Number of Notices Served, Section 4. Treatments. | Works. |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--|----------|
| Local Authority | 3 | 39 | 0 | 0 |
| Dwellinghouses | 274 | 418 | 0 | 0 |
| Business | 91 | 145 | 0 | 0 |
| Agricultural | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 368 | 602 | 0 | 0 |

| Type of Property | Number of Treatments carried out By arrangement with owner. Under Section 5 (1). | | | | Block treatment of properties in different occupancies under Sect. 6 (1) or by informal arrangements No. of Surface Associated Sewers. | | |
|------------------|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Rats only. | Mice only. | Rats only. | Mice only. | Blocks. | No. of separate occupancies. | No. of manholes treated. |
| Local Authority | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Dwellinghouses | 67 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 21 | 4 |
| Business | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Agricultural | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | 74 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 21 | 4 |

HOUSING.

New Houses.

| | |
|---|-----|
| No. of new houses erected by Local Authority | Nil |
| No. of new houses erected by private enterprise | 6 |
| No. of houses demolished by informal action | 2 |
| No. of families rehoused from unfit houses | 2 |

Improvement Grants.

No. of Improvement Grants approved during the year

| | | | | | |
|---------------|---|-----|----------|---|----|
| Discretionary | - | 11. | Standard | - | 1. |
|---------------|---|-----|----------|---|----|

Disinfections, &c.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| No. of Premises disinfected | 2 |
| No. of Premises disinfested | 1 |

Moveable Dwellings.

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| No. of sites licensed | - 1 | No. of individual licences | - Nil. |
| No. of inspections | - 23 | | |
| No. of Moveable Dwellings | (a) for holiday use | 100 | |
| | (b) residential use | NONE. | |

G.OAKES.

Public Health Inspector.

August, 1960.

